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SOVIET INTELLIGENCE SCHOOLS IN AUSTRIA

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Except for one GRU school ~~which was~~ located at Moedling ~~which~~ which was active in 1945 and 1946, and the training company of the 313th Radio Intercept Battalion attached to the Intelligence Directorate of the Central Group of Forces in Austria, little concrete information has been developed concerning schools directed by the Soviet Intelligence Services in Austria. In addition, in most cases where schools are reported as being directed by services other than Soviet Military Intelligence, it is almost impossible to ascertain whether the school is actually directed by the MGB or by the MVD. Since most of the information available in our files is dated or comes from untested sources, it is difficult to come to any kind of a conclusion concerning the training schools directed by the Soviet Intelligence Services in Austria.

It is definite that intelligence schools exist in that country, and that many of the courses given are designed to train future Soviet agents to penetrate U.S. intelligence installations and personnel in Austria. Thus while the overall training program and status of Soviet Intelligence personnel in Austria cannot be assessed, it ~~would~~ appear that in Austria, at any rate, ^{even} the United States rather than Britain or France or ~~even~~ Austria is the primary espionage target.

While most of the material set out on Soviet indoctrination and training centers in Austria is treated in more or less a positive manner, it is to be remembered that most of the information has not been substantiated to date.

Sov. I S. Schools AUSTRIA.

BADEN Bei WEIN

1. In 1951 a MVD School was reported at Renngasse, 2 in Baden. This school is allegedly subordinate to the general headquarters of Colonel FEDORYEV. No further details concerning the school have been developed.

2. Since the establishment of the RU CGF in Austria, the 313th Radio Intercept Batt'l attached to the RU has given a training course for members of the Batt'l who will be engaged in the interception of enemy traffic. ^{The school is located just outside of Baden} For further information see Chapter on Signals Communications Schools.

3. In April 1951 one Soviet Major, Stepan Fedorovich FEDOR was reported to be located in Baden and to be in charge of ^{the} the Smersh type training schools there. Prior to being posted to Austria, he had ~~been~~ attended the Frunze Military Academy in Moscow. ①

4. The "Baden Intelligence School"

By 1947 an intelligence school directed by a Soviet Intelligence agency, (it has not been ascertained to date whether it was established by the MGB, GRU, or MVD) had been established in Baden bei Wein. The students appear to have been Austrian communists, many of whom seem to have had previous intelligence training in the USSR before attending the Baden school.

Upon completion of their training at the school, the students, who appear to have been trained in small ^{units} groups, were ^{posted to various parts} sent throughout Austria with the primary mission of penetrating U.S. installations, particularly CIC,; of obtaining names and descriptions of CIC and leading U.S. personalities at USFIA; and the recording of the attitude of Americans towards the Soviets. Some of the trainees have even been posted on their missions in U.S. Army uniforms.

The following have been identified as members of the 1947 of the school in 1947:(next page)

① It is possible that Major FEDOR is identical with Col. FEDORYEV and that the so called "School at Renngasse 2" is actually a UKR MGB School.

SHMELEV, Red Army Major

aka SHMELEFF, SHMELEW, SHMELEY

Enil1947 SHMELEV was chief of the Baden Intelligence School." Prior to being appointed to this position he had been Chief of the Soviet Repatriation Mission in the Vorarlberg, HQ Bregen, for eighteen months, and has been reported as a capable intelligence officer.

CHEK, Olga. Olga was been reported as being connected with the "Baden Intelligence School," and as holding the position of secretary to one Colonel LATOV.

KLEBETKA, fnu

KLEBETKA has been reported as a leading personality at the "Baden Intelligence School." In the spring of 1947 he allegedly was ~~about to go to~~ Salzburg in the uniform of a U.S. Army Major. *preparing to undertake a mission in*

The following Austrians have been identified as having attended the school prior to April 1947:

BLASH

@ JANSKA. As of April 1947 was reported as a recent graduate of the school.

BERNAUER, fnu.

As of April 1947 was reported as a recent graduate of the school.

FREITAG

@ MOCHAR. As of March 1947 had graduated from the school and had been posted on a mission to Upper Austria. Left on the mission using an American jeep and wearing a U.S. Army uniform.

HEINDL

@ PROPHASKA. As of March 1947 had graduated from the school and had been sent on a mission to ~~the U.S. zone of Austria~~ Salzburg.

HEINTZ

@ KUMMER. As of March 1947 had graduated from the school and had been sent on a mission to the U.S. zone of Austria. Left for his mission wearing a U.S. Army uniform.

HORVAD

@ SCHUH. As of April 1947 had recently graduate from the school and been sent on a mission to penetrate the CIC in Vienna.

LANG, fnu. As of April 1947 he had recently graduated from the Baden School. He is probably identical with one Kurt LANG who prior to March 1947 had attended an intelligence school in Moscow and been posted by the RIS to Baden, Austria to penetrate U.S. installations there, especially CIC.

LENK, fnu. As of April 1947 had recently graduated from the Baden school. Probably identical with Joseph LINK, who prior to March 1947 had attended an intelligence

ence school in Moscow and had been posted by the RIS to Baden, Austria to penetrate the U.S. installations there, especially those of CIC.

SCHOBBER

@ NEYERS. As of March 1947 had graduated from the Baden school and had allegedly had been posted on an assignment in Upper Austria. He had left on the mission wearing a U.S. Army uniform.

SCHULTZE, fnu. In April 1947 had recently graduated from the school. He is probably identical with one Hugo SCHULZE who had attended an intelligence school in Moscow and had been posted by the RIS to Baden with the mission of penetrating U.S. installations, particularly those of CIC.

SUCHER, fnu. In April 1947 had recently graduated from the Baden school. He is probably identical with one Franz SUCHER who prior to early 1947, the exact date of which is unknown, had attended an intelligence school in Moscow and been posted by the RIS to Baden with the mission of penetrating U.S. installations, particularly those of CIC.

HINTER

~~HINTER~~-BRUEHL (Near Modeling)

It has been stated that in July 1945 ^{the} a Red Army established an Antifa School at Hinter-Bruehl for the purpose of training personnel ~~to~~ act as Politruks and to observe and report general political trends to the Soviet Intelligence Agencies. It was reported that trainees who showed higher capabilities and trustworthiness were given confidential and secret missions, including surveillance assignments with the "NKVD" which kept a strict watching brief on the school. Most of the information concerning this school lies in a period prior to the summer of 1946, and it is more**

The training period lasted for around two and one half months and both young men and women received training. The number in training varied from 150 to 250 per course, the number in training growing smaller as the Soviet occupation wore on. The students were not allowed to leave the school except for emergencies and the school itself was guarded by Russian soldiers. The school faculty was composed of Russians, former German ^{and Austrian} PWs, and former German communists who had fought in Spain during the Civil War. ^{students were accorded status} All ~~had some sort of status~~ with the Red Army.

The main emphasis of the school was upon thorough political indoctrination, and upon completion of the courses, students were assigned to ^{Austrian} districts and were employed by the local Russian Military Governments of ~~these~~ areas.

The following individuals have been reported as members of the teaching staff of the school ^{during the period} in 1945 and 1946.

BERESHOVSKI, Lt. in the Red Army.. Propaganda instructor

EILDERMANN, Former German newspaper man and also former teacher at an Antifa School in Moscow. Gave lectures on Marxism and Leninism.

ETZ, Wilhelm. Fought with the Red Army during the Civil War in Spain. During WW II attended an Antifa school in Moscow.

HALWAX, Wilhelm. Assistant instructor. Worked with BERESHOVSKI

HIRSCH, Jewish. Lived in France during WW II. Was the head of the faculty at the school and one of the heads of the propaganda section of the KPO Central Committee, Vienna.

Hinter-Bruehl contd

MATCIAS, Hans. Locksmith by trade, ^{who had been} ~~was~~ a political prisoner at Dachau/ Instructor

RUCHS, Wilhelm. During WW II he deserted the German Army, turned himself over to the Soviets and was sent to an Antifa School in Moscow, and later somewhere on the Russo-German Front. Teacher at the school.

RYBAKOV, Major of the Russian Guard. Chief of the School.

WEBER. Was a university professor from Moscow. Taught Russian history at the school.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INNSBRUCH

In 1947 the Soviet Military Mission in Innsbruck recruited and trained agents for Soviet Intelligence. These agents were subsequently trained by intelligence officers attached to the missions and posted on various assignments to different parts of Austria. The officers at the mission who were concerned with agent recruitment and training were OAVLOVSKI, Chief of the Mission; CHEPCHENKO; and Capt./Lt. CHEP-OVALOV.

The training received by the agents was very elementary in scope and included the following: the ^{conduct} ~~conduct~~ of an agent when on assignment, the goal of the activity of a Soviet agent, the technique of propaganda, the treatment of prisoners, and theoretical and practical courses in the art of self defense. The course lasted around three months and the ^{recruits} ~~students~~ received training three times a week for two hours.

Among the students taking the course were one KALASCHINIKOV, BOREL Jr, and ~~SE.~~, LYGIN, MAMONTOV, YANUCHEVSKI, and STANKOWSKY.

KALTENLEUTGEBEN (near Vienna) 20 klm S.W. of Vienna

In 1947 a ^{Russian sponsored} ~~MVD~~ agent school for the ^{Austrian Communists} ~~selection~~ of future ~~MVD~~ agents was reported to be located in Kaltenleutgeben in a former monastery. ~~The monastery--served--also~~ In addition to serving as a training center, a telephone exchange was also reported to be located in the monastery as well as a monitoring station which allegedly controlled Soviet Military and State calls. The entire building was very heavily guarded, and during the time spent at Kaltenleutgeben the students who were at the training center were not allowed to leave the school.

The duration of the course was ten weeks , instruction being given by MVD officers, both Soviet nationals and Austrian Communists. The trainees themselves were Austrian Communists and the monastery served primarily as a selection and indoctrination point for individuals slated for work with the MVD. At the end of the training period the students who generally numbered between thirty and forty were sent to Saratov for additional instruction. It has been stated that they were sent to the Judicial Faculty at Saratov, concerning which, no details have been developed.

The following individuals were identified in 1947 as being members ^{Austrian C.P.} of the staff at the Kaltenleutgeben school:

HONNER, ~~fnu~~ Franz

FISCHER, ~~fnu~~ Ernst

FUERNBERG, ~~fnu~~ Friedl

STERN, Dr. Leopold

N.B.
4-186

MOEDLING

1. GRU Agent Radio School.

For further information concerning this school See Chapter , Sub Title,
Soviet Military Intelligence Prepares for an International Emergency.

2. ~~MVD~~ MVD School

In 1951 a school for the training of MVD officers was
Reportedly located in the former War Academy in Moedling.
The nature of the training received by the students at the school
has not been Ascertained.

RODAUN(near Vienna)

In 1947 a political indoctrination school for Soviet agents was reportedly
located in Rodaun. No details concerning this school have been developed to date.

VIENNA / WEIN

1. Argentinierstrasse, 23 Vienna IV

In 1949 a so called Army Political School for Occupation Forces was reportedly located at the above. Nothing is known concerning this school except that it was allegedly directed by Col of the MVD, Walter STERN, brother of Leopold STERN, an outstanding Austrian Communist.

Favoritenstrasse, 13, Vienna IV


2. As early as the summer of 1947 a political indoctrination school for Soviet agents was reportedly located at the above. The students were Austrian communists and the head of the school has been reported as one Major Anton KREPELKA, a former Wehrmacht officer who was an expert in counterespionage activities.

3. Radio School at Kettenbrueckengasse, 20 (Vienna IV)
and Taborstrasse, 24 (Vienna II)

25X1X6

In 1946 and 1947 a radio school and quarters was reported at the above locations. One of the students who attended the school here also received private instruction ^{at private apt} at Taborstrasse, 24/~~which appears to have been~~ ^{(Vienna II) which was} the address of the Hotel Continental. A radio operator's school is known to have been located in the hotel, while ~~24/b has been identified as an MWD office~~, but no details concerning it have been developed to date.

The training was given by Soviet officers who taught through Russian interpreters. The length of the course and the nationalities trained at the school have not been ascertained.



25X1X6

In 1946 the following officers were identified as members of the training ~~staffs~~ staffs both at Taborstrasse 24 and Kettenbrueckengasse, 20:

TROKHIN, Major. Major TROKHIM is reported to have worked out of Baden bei Wein.

He was the operational case officer and mission assigning officer at Kettenbrueckengasse, 20 and is known to have frequented Starhemberggasse 4-6 which was used, among other things, in 1946 and 1947 as a meeting place between Soviet case officers and their agents.

Captain "Ivan," last name unknown, @ "Captain Boris." Gave code instruction and training briefing in communications programs of the agents.

Sgt. "VANYA" Sg.t VANYA was an interpreter at the radio school at Kettenbrueckengasse 20 and at the radio school at Taborstrasse 24. In 1947 he was said to be attending the Uni. of Vienna.

Sg.t WVANYA." Sgt. "VANYA" was a radio instructor at the school at Kettenbreuchengasse 20 and at Taborstrasse 24. He also worked out of Starhemberggasse 4-6.

"VIKTOR." Interpreter at the radio school at Kettenbreuchengasse 20. In 1947 was said to be attending the Uni. of Vienna.

WIENER NEUSTADT

1. In 1951 a small school, presumably directed by Soviet intelligence was reportedly located at Badner Hauptstrasse 42 in Wiener Neustadt. Except for the fact that one Major KHMURKOV was allegedly in charge of the school, no pertinent details concerning the school have been developed to date.

2. In 1951 a MVD school which gave a special training course for officers from all units in Austria was reportedly located at Kollonitschgasse 16 in Wiener Neustadt. The number of trainees attending the course was stated never to exceed the number of twenty. The following individuals were identified as members of the staff:

BLYUTIN, Lt. Fedor. In 1951 BLYUTIN was on the staff of the school. He is stated to have been a former Smersh officer who subsequently became a member of the MVD and who in 1951 on the the Soviet General Staff.

SURKOV, Capt Leonid. Head of the school

VASILYEVNA, Lt. Katya. Instructor at the school.

3. In 1951 a MVD school for the training of newly arrived Border Troops in Austria was reportedly ^{located} at Wienerstrasse, 61, Wiener Neustadt. This school is believed to be chiefly concerned with ^{civil} police and military police matters. The study of German in the school is compulsory and accords with the order that all Soviet officers in Austria are to learn German. The following individuals have been identified

as members of the staff:

BYULKONOV, Major. In charge of the school
DUSYENKOVICH, Sgt. fnu. Instructor

ORINYEV, Corporal. Instructor

VILKOV, Corporal. Instructor.

4. In 1946 an NKVD agent training school was reportedly located in Wiener Neustadt near the barracks of the 32nd Guards Corps. The chief of the school was reported to be Lt. Col. ZAITSEV, Chief of the ^{Guards} 32nd Corps. ~~It is very possible that this school may be identical with any of the school in Wiener Neustadt mentioned heretofore.~~

The teaching staff consisted of both officers and civilians and the students received individual instruction. The source is reported to have lasted around five months and to have included the following subjects: ~~b7d~~ techniques of border crossing, the building up of cover stories, the use of letter drops, coded messages, etc. Allegedly upon completion of the training students were posted to the U.S. zone of Austria with the assignment of penetrating U.S. intelligence installations, to Italy and the like.

Since the source of this ^{material} ~~information~~ is very unreliable, the information which he has given on this school may be pure fabrication; however, there is a possibility that the school may really exist, and that it is identical with one of the intelligence schools in Wiener Neustadt which have been treated heretofore.